

***TIPPECANOE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
October 1, 2013***

The Emergency Management Advisory Council held its regular meeting on Tuesday, October 1, 2013 at 8:00 a.m. in the Tippecanoe Room of the County Office Building. Advisory Council members present were Chairman Garry Smith, Commissioner David Byers, Smokey Anderson, Jeff Butz, John Basham, Captain Mike Francis, Jimmy Kesterson, Perry Martin, David Reagan, John Withers, and Ron Wright. Also present were Sharon Gerlach and Recording Secretary Tillie Hennigar.

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- John Withers moved to approve the minutes from the August 6, 2013 regular meeting, second by Mike Francis; motion carried.

DISTRICT 4 EXERCISE – MUSCATATUCK URBAN TRAINING CENTER (MUTC)

Chairman Smith said he, Ron Wright, Kevin Ply – Purdue Fire Chief, and Jefferson Howells spent a day at the District 4 exercise at Muscatatuck, known as the “Tipton Twister”, the past week. Following the tour, the group met up with Jeff Houston, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security District 4 Administrative Coordinator. Jeff provided an inside tour of the facility. Chairman Smith introduced Jefferson Howells to share the pictures he took at Muscatatuck.

Jefferson Howells said he has held many roles in the community associated with Home Hospital and the Fire Department. Currently, he is the Assistant Director of the Purdue Emergency Preparedness Office, working with Ron Wright. He is the Planning Section Chief on the Incident Management Assistance Team for District 4 Response Task Force. He has an assistant fire chief, Firefighter, EMT/Haz-Mat Tech, and is a current volunteer for TEMA.

Jefferson said, as a district, we have participated in the state level exercise for the fifth time in various capacities. Last year, all elements were taken; this year, limited elements were supplied. Jefferson said the idea of the Task Force is to be self-sustained. Jefferson provided the following Power Point presentation followed by many pictures of the training center grounds and facilities.

**INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF
HOMELAND SECURITY**
DISTRICT-4 RESPONSE TASK FORCE



“Tipton Twister”
**State-Level Full Scale Exercise at
Muscatatuck Urban Training Center
(MUTC)**

Ron Wright, Director
Jefferson Howells, Assistant Director
University Emergency Preparedness

Campus Emergency Preparedness & Planning
205 South Martin Jischke Drive
(765) 494-0446

State-Level Exercise: D4RTF

- 62-First Responders from 13 Departments throughout District-4's 9-County area
- 4-"Elements"
 - Service & Support
 - Tactical Rescue
 - Emergency Medical Services
 - Swift Water Rescue
- 24-Vehicles: Trucks, Cars, Ambulances
 - 10-Trailers: Air, Food, Supplies, Equipment
- 1-Freezer FULL of Ice Cream Sandwiches!

State-Level Exercise Our VIP Tour

- Carpool to Muscatatuck Urban Training Center (MUTC) outside of North Vernon Indiana.
- Check in at Contingency Operating Base (IN Nat. Guard) "Panther"
- Shuttle to MUTC VIP & Media Staging Area
- Briefing by Exercise Director and Executive Director for the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) John Hill
- Ground Tour of MUTC exercise sites by District-4 Response Task Force Commander Jeff Houston
- Return to Panther

Jefferson explained that the training center is not just for Indiana; it is utilized by many nationwide. He discussed and presented pictures of the area provided for the Task Force for sleeping and eating; the Storm Bunker provided for the responders during severe weather; a new mock-up of a bus and subway station with three full size subways; the incident command post; a train derailment; a hospital; flooding; International housing; water rescue; and structural collapse. Every step is taken to make the area as real as possible. There were also areas that the group did not see.

Director Anderson said the District 4 group went to Muscatatuck on Monday. In honor of the Indianapolis police officer who was shot the prior week, the convoy was diverted past the IMPD Northwest station. Eight motorcycle officers met the convoy on I65 and escorted the convoy past the memorial set up for the fallen officer. Indianapolis is District 5 and planned to provide law enforcement for the Muscatatuck exercise but cancelled due to the fallen officer tragedy.

Director Anderson continued to comment on the Muscatatuck exercise. This is the first year potable water was taken via a 275 gallon tote with a pump, pressure tank, and hot water. He said it is empowering to go with everything needed, including a mobile shop and a mechanic. It is expensive to load and set up everything; each tent is very complex with generators and a complex electrical system.

Muscatatuck was built about the same era as the Veterans Home in West Lafayette. It is larger with approximately 1,000 acres, both have a power house, and Muscatatuck has dorms similar to the Veterans Home hospital.

The Swift Water Team sat in staging for seven hours. While waiting, they saw INDOT perform various scenarios involving buses, trucks, and snow plows.

Director Hill joined District 4 on Tuesday night. Director Anderson thanked him for the financial support; District 4 had a budget for the week of \$48,000 for food, fuel, overtime, and backfill. Director Hill said over \$1 million was spent on the week.

Chairman Smith said other countries are actually brought into Muscatatuck for training; there is no other place like it in the world; it is a world class operation. We are very fortunate to have the facility available and will take advantage of any training opportunity.

Director Anderson said a few weeks prior to the event, the State requested District 4 send an EMS element; which Jeff Houston was able to work out. The EMS expenses of meals and fuel were paid for and District 4's budget was increased.

Chairman Smith thanked Jefferson for the presentation and information he provided.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Anderson reviewed recent and upcoming activities:

- The budget is on track for 2013. The Council cut \$1,000 from the 2014 budget for the EOC.
- In mid-August, three days were spent preparing for Muscatatuck. All generators and spider boxes (electrical distribution boxes) were set up and color coded at the Fairgrounds in the hog barn.
- Work continues on the EMPG Assessment and they have met with Sharon.
- Several meetings have been held with the ADA Consultant of Indiana and the Red Cross working toward getting shelter plans in compliance. Smokey said it will be nearly impossible to accomplish. He is not concerned about the buildings; however, a number of shelters won't be useable if they don't meet the ADA requirements. One example is the Romney church which is on a generator and is probably 100 years old.
- Approximately 16 people assisting Purdue with games.
- Participated in the Red Cross Preparedness Fair at the Fairgrounds.
- Took approximately a week to prepare for deployment, spent four days at Muscatatuck, and now the tents are set up to dry and equipment is being returned to storage.
- Preparing for the Feast of the Hunters Moon this weekend, utilizing most of the volunteers.
- A volunteer, Chuck Wellborn has been working on his Task Book. The Task Book is a process used by the State to certify individuals. His position is COM L, a Communications Leader. Chuck works full time at Purdue, is one of 20 in the state and the second one in Tippecanoe County with certification.

SIRENS

Director Anderson said Federal Signal came in within the last two weeks and repaired those that didn't work. The one time the signals were set off twice for the spring tornado drill, some would work the first time but not the second time and vice versa. The last test was cancelled due to the Purdue game. A request has been made to Federal Signal to make a zone to exclude the seven Purdue sirens if the all-county test is performed during a football game or other major event such as graduation.

HAZ MAT

There have not been any call outs since last meeting. Training and maintenance meets every month.

OLD BUSINESS

Dave Reagan said an informational pamphlet about TEMA was discussed in the past and put on hold until the siren zones were finalized. He questioned if the pamphlet was still on hold. Director Anderson and Chairman Smith agreed that the pamphlet was eliminated with the development of the website but Director Anderson will check on to be sure. Ron Wright added that due to the cost, we are trying to eliminate printed media. Chairman Smith said the newspaper and printed advertising is on the decline; internet is where the growth is.

NEW BUSINESS - none

Ron Wright moved to adjourn, second by Perry Martin; motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 a.m.

The next meeting is Tuesday, December 1, 2013.